

Complete Count Committee

Notes

June 8, 2009

Members Present: Don Reimal, Molly Bunton (St. Louis County Executive Designee), Josh Wiese (St. Louis Mayor Designee), Doug Hermes, John Petersen, Jane Brown, Matt Hesser, Kelvin Simmons, Rep. Dennis Wood, Jerry Dowell (Lt. Gov. Designee), and Anna Crosslin

Members on the Phone: Adolfo Castillo, Robbie Myers, Anita Russell and Scott Burnett

Members Absent: Kathy Chinn, Steve Ehlmann, Gwen Grant, Ed Hillhouse, Gerald Jones, Carolyn Loraine, Jorge Riopedre, Brenda Shields and R.T. Turner

Additional Attendees: Lori Simms & Emily Smith - OA, Bret Bender – US Census Bureau, Katina Jones - Secretary of State's Office

I. Updates

Meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm by Chair, Commissioner Kelvin Simmons

Emily Smith asked Bret Bender to give an update of US Census Bureau efforts and then if anyone else had an update they would like to share.

Brett gave a Census bureau update. There are 14 partnership specialists out the Kansas City region and 10 working out the KC region office.

Applications for Partnership support are due by June 30. Funds are available up to \$2,999 for goods; up to \$2,499 for services. These funds are available to any active partners of the Census bureau. Partners need to make decisions now for items that they would distribute next spring. Census bureau pays direct to the vendor.

Bret stressed that we be creative and think beyond t-shirts, others have done place mats in restaurants, coffee mugs in small towns, coffee cups to go in convenience stores etc. Applications can be turned in to Bret and he will submit to the Kansas City office. For there they will get it in the database.

Census Bureau also has items available for free – coffee mugs, nylon bags, stress balls, mouse pads, church fans, etc. CB will need approximately 2 weeks notice to order stuff for events; items are updated regularly.

Job recruiting will begin again in September and office jobs will run through September 2010. Census taker jobs begin in March and could last up to four months.

Josh Wiese – St. Louis Mayor's Office

Local CCC forming shortly in St. Louis – Josh is getting proclamation from the mayor this week

Anna – had meeting with immigrant leaders in STL; setting up timeline

Scott – meeting this week in KC for the KC local complete count committee

Work group has created action plan for steering committee

Katina - Local govts should be seeing paperwork to verify address canvassing (for those which participated in LUCA) this will go directly to local leaders and there is 45-day turnaround

Emily asked the committee about timing. Everyone agreed Monday's were the best day and they would like to move the time back to 10-2 pm. Emily will send out updated meeting schedule.

II. Review of plan

Is the timeline realistic?

Anna asked about segmentation – are there gaps? Too many segments

Matt reviewed flow chart – explained sub committees; issues and geographic, regional planning commissions, community partnerships and local points of contact

Discussion on subcommittee workflow

Matt has compiled list of organizations that may be able to help disseminate information on local level

Regional subcommittees can provide lists of contacts to issues subcommittees.

Use Council of Governments to obtain best lists of organizations.

Rep Woods – how do we accurately count people? Transient population, homeless, etc

CCC – job is to get the word out; not to actually count the people

Brett explained that Census Bureau has Be Counted sites and Question Assistance Sites – Be counted sites are places people can go and fill out form and place them in locked box

Question Assistance Centers – organizations can apply to become a site and assist individuals with the forms

Molly – sees workflow issues are categories under each region

Committee discussed having regional subcommittees be the only subcommittees with each focusing on the issue areas listed. The subject was raised that we would be fracturing the CCC into seven “localized CCC’s.” This then raised the question, “What then would be the role of the statewide CCC? ... this group.”

Consider cutting down on # of issues

Consider leaving out STL/KC from statewide efforts – because of strong local efforts

Matt: most important task is building communications network to reach people through local, trusted spokespersons – this points out importance of regional planning commissions

Motion: Jane moved to maintain issue-based focus of the action plan; Jerry seconded.

Discussion followed on whether to proceed with issue-based or regionally based plan

Jerry suggested the regional approach with each subcommittee determining which issues are most important to their region; bring in as much or little as needed

Jane and Josh – then what is the point of committee?

Doug – CCC's clear role – to establish priorities then region establishing what are local priorities

Anna: state CCC responsible for messaging

Commissioner Simmons moved for a vote. Motion prevailed 8-5

There was a request for speaking points

Draft plans due by July 15th; final plans due prior to August meeting. Emily will follow-up with date and will sub-committee assignments.

III. Meeting Adjourned 3:30 pm